

Pneumococcal Vaccinations

Persons with diabetes are at increased risk of hospitalization, morbidity, and mortality associated with pneumonia. Persons with diabetes over 65 who contract pneumonia have an increased risk of dying.

Unlike the influenza vaccine, the pneumococcal vaccine ("pneumonia shot") is **not** an annual vaccine. The pneumococcal vaccine is recommended only once in a person's lifetime, and it protects against pneumonia (lung infection), bacteremia (blood infection), and meningitis (brain infection).

According to the American Diabetes Association, persons with diabetes are three times more likely to die from the flu or pneumonia than persons without diabetes. However, in Virginia in 2009, only 45.3% of adults with diabetes reported ever having had a pneumococcal vaccine.

Percent of adults with diabetes who report ever having had a pneumococcal vaccination, Virginia, 2001-2009

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
39.2%	39.7%	43.8%	45.7%	50.3%	51.0%	49.6%	46.8%	45.3%

Data notes: Percents are weighted based on 2000 U.S. Census data and age-adjusted. Three-year rolling averages were used to improve the accuracy of annual estimates. For example, the 2002 estimate is an average of data from 2001, 2002, and 2003. Two years of data were used when three were not available.

Healthy People 2020 Objective: (IID-13) Increase the proportion of high-risk adults who are vaccinated against pneumococcal disease to 60% (90% for adults 65 and over).

American Diabetes Association Recommendation: Anyone over age 2 who has increased risk of getting and dying from pneumonia (such as persons with diabetes) should get a pneumonia shot.

Sources: CDC Diabetes Indicators and Data Source Internet Tool, accessed 5/2011; Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2001-2009;

American Diabetes Association: [Flu and Pneumonia Shots](#); www.diabetes.org.